

to drilling there won't even go to Alaska to see the situation there. I think that's terribly, terribly shortsighted.

We could have started doing that many years ago, and we wouldn't be in this situation that we're in now because that, along with other things that we could do, such as drilling in the outer continental shelf, such as creating other resources, such as cellulosic ethanol, would be providing us what we need.

And I also agree, again, with Representative WAMP that energy independence means to me we are not going to be dependent on OPEC countries. We don't want to be dependent on people who hate us. We don't want to help fuel the terrorists. One of the things that we're doing is providing money for the terrorists to fight us, and we don't need to be doing that.

We do need to conserve. We do need to use every resource available to us in this country, and it is time that the Democrats exert some leadership in this area instead of blaming George Bush and blaming others for the problem that we're facing. They absolutely refuse to take charge of what's happening here.

I heard today on a radio program that there is a theory that they want to make the American people as miserable as they possibly can because President Bush is still our President, and they are so good at blaming him for things rather than accepting responsibility for their own actions. I think that has to be one of the most cynical things that anybody could possibly be doing in this country. It's our responsibility here to do everything that we can to help the American people, not do everything that we can to make them miserable.

I want to give you a quote from Investors Business Daily from April 29, 2008. The title of the article is "Congress vs. You," and one of the quotes, "The current Congress, led on the House side by a Speaker who promised a 'common sense plan' to cut energy prices 2 years ago, has shown itself to be incompetent and irresponsible."

Again, we have quote after quote after quote from business journals and from responsible people to show us that the problems that we're facing now are not based in our situation with the war but is based in the incompetence and the do-nothing of this Congress.

And again, let me point out, President Clinton vetoed H.R. 2491, the Balanced Budget Act of 1995, which would have allowed environmentally responsible exploration for an estimated 10.4 billion barrels of oil in a tiny sliver of ANWR. Senate Democrats have twice blocked energy exploration in ANWR via the Energy Policy Acts of 2003 and 2005. They have voted "no" on the American-Made Energy and Good Jobs Act which would open ANWR to exploration, over and over again. They've said no to new refineries. They've said no to the Energy Policy Act. As others have pointed out, they've said no use

to using coal. They've said no to using nuclear. Everything they've done is say no, while Republicans have repeatedly said yes. Yes to Americans who drive to work and school. Yes to gasoline prices that Americans can afford. Yes to American oil. Yes to American common sense in the rules, and yes to an American future of abundant, affordable energy that working people can afford to buy.

I don't think the Democrats are going to be able to continue to fool the American people that someone else is responsible for the problem that we're now facing. They're squarely responsible. They continue to say no, Republicans continue to say yes, and I think the American people are going to understand that in the short-term and in the long-term.

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time either side has?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HIRONO). The gentleman from Colorado has 30 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Nebraska has 3½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SALAZAR. Is the gentleman prepared to close?

Mr. TERRY. I have closed, and I will probably use my 3½ minutes for closing.

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, today I couldn't agree more with many of the comments that my friend from Nebraska has made. He comes from farming country like I do. We understand the value of the fuel that goes into your tractors and the value of the fuel that goes into your pick-up trucks to run a farming operation.

I believe that ethanol is a temporary fix to our energy independence in America. We need to start looking at new technologies such as cellulosic-based technology. We understand that relying on corn-based ethanol is only a short-term solution.

Everything that I believe that my colleague has in his motion has been addressed in what the conference committee has brought forward, the higher \$1 per gallon cellulosic ethanol tax credit. I think that these are provisions that Mr. TERRY's motion has.

I only have one concern, Madam Speaker, is that if we were to adopt this motion, I believe that it could potentially delay the passage of the farm bill, and so I would ask my colleague, Mr. TERRY from Nebraska, to consider withdrawing his motion.

Mr. TERRY. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. SALAZAR. Yes.

Mr. TERRY. I plan to mouth those words at the end of my ending comments.

Mr. SALAZAR. I would thank the gentleman, and with that, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado.

In closing, what we're faced with is restricted supply, ever increasing de-

mand on oil products, on oil and gasoline, \$124, just shy of \$124 per barrel today, and my friends, it's just going to keep going up. And we need a plan to make sure that we protect our economy and your budget.

We know that we can't continue to pay these type of prices at the pump. We know that what we're experiencing with our inflation at the grocery store is about 80 percent related to those high costs of energy.

We have a solution before us with ethanol, corn-based ethanol. Again, just in a summary here, the ethanol that is blended into the gasoline today is actually making it cheaper. That's allowing you to save more. You're not going to be spending as much on gasoline if it were not for the blend of ethanol in it.

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The argument that food has increased because of ethanol is not accurate. In fact, these are just several of the publications that have gone on record, Wall Street Journal, CNN, have all said that it's a fallacy that food prices are going up because of ethanol.

So net, it's helping our citizens, but the future isn't with corn-based ethanol, it's with cellulosic. Cellulosic is going to supplement this ethanol. And its potential is immense.

So I'm proud to learn from the gentleman from Colorado that the dollar producers credit—I think I called it blenders credit a couple of times during the statement—but that 101 producers credit, coupled with the blending credit, is what's going to lift cellulosic ethanol for us into the market and make it a viable way that we can secure our independence from the OPEC producers.

Knowing that that is in the farm bill conference report, I feel comfortable, then, not instructing the farm conference, especially since there is no more conference.

I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my motion to instruct.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the motion is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.